

Amendment No. 1 to SB1405

Gresham
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1405

House Bill No. 795*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-602(g)(2)(E), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (i) and by adding the following language as new subdivision (ii):

(ii) One (1) option for alternative governance shall be reopening the school as a public charter school. If the commissioner selects this option, then during the fifth year of improvement status, the commissioner of education is authorized to solicit applications for the conversion of such school to a charter school. Applications for conversion of a school may be submitted to the commissioner of education by any entity that qualifies as a sponsor of a charter school under § 49-13-104 or by the LEA. If the commissioner, with the advice of the state board of education, approves an application for conversion of the school to a charter school, the school shall become a public charter school at the beginning of the school year following the fifth year of improvement status. If no charter application is submitted to the commissioner, the commissioner may direct the LEA to submit a charter application for conversion of such school under § 49-13-106(b)(2), so that the school may commence operation as a charter school at the beginning of the school year following the fifth year of improvement status.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-106(b)(2), is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivision:

() A school in restructuring 2—alternate governance under § 49-1-602(g) may be converted to a charter school pursuant to the approval of an application

for conversion by the commissioner of education with the advice of the state board of education. Parents whose children are enrolled at the school shall have the option to enroll their children in another public school without penalty.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 13, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-13-____. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the commissioner of education may adopt dates and timelines for submitting applications and processing applications as the commissioner finds necessary to expedite the process of conversion of a school in restructuring 2—alternate governance under § 49-1-602 to a charter school.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.